

Date: Sun, 18 Jul 93 19:29:09 PDT
From: Ham-Policy Mailing List and Newsgroup <ham-policy@ucsd.edu>
Errors-To: Ham-Policy-Errors@UCSD.Edu
Reply-To: Ham-Policy@UCSD.Edu
Precedence: Bulk
Subject: Ham-Policy Digest V93 #237
To: Ham-Policy

Ham-Policy Digest Sun, 18 Jul 93 Volume 93 : Issue 237

Today's Topics:

 Callsign reissue on FCC's steam driven computer
 Call sign snobbery (4 msgs)
 Foreigner getting US liscence ? (2 msgs)
 Order pizza on your autopatch now
 Presence of control operator

Send Replies or notes for publication to: <Ham-Policy@UCSD.Edu>
Send subscription requests to: <Ham-Policy-REQUEST@UCSD.Edu>
Problems you can't solve otherwise to brian@ucsd.edu.

Archives of past issues of the Ham-Policy Digest are available
(by FTP only) from UCSD.Edu in directory "mailarchives/ham-policy".

We trust that readers are intelligent enough to realize that all text
herein consists of personal comments and does not represent the official
policies or positions of any party. Your mileage may vary. So there.

Date: Sun, 18 Jul 93 07:59:16 GMT
From: pravda.sdsc.edu!news.cerf.net!usc!howland.reston.ans.net!gatech!news-
feed-1.peachnet.edu!emory!rsiatl!jgd@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: Callsign reissue on FCC's steam driven computer
To: ham-policy@ucsd.edu

levy@levy.fnal.gov (Mark E. Levy, ext. 8056) writes:

>I'm very encouraged by the Alpha. But, I wouldn't say that the workstation
>versions released so far could hold a candle to the Burroughs data-moving
>capability. CPU-wise they probably blow the Burroughs away. Megabytes-per-
>second; I don't think so. Now, the data-center Alphas are a different story.
>I doubt that the callsign database is very CPU-intensive.

You know, Mark, I've made a very good living the last 6 or 7 years proving
people like you wrong. My specialty is jacking up big bad old mainframes
and sliding one or a few PCs running Unix in under 'em. I'll give you
a little hint: A high end PC or a small array running RAIDed file system

and any of the good Unixes and equipped with multiple network conncections will shame most any mainframe around. No, you can't use COBOL but then that just proves there really IS a God.

```
>[ BitNet:    LEVY@FNAL          | Unix is to computing
>[ Internet:  LEVY@FNAL.GOV      |      as an Etch-a-Sketch is to art.
```

Ah, the words of the incipient unemployed.

John

```
--
John De Armond, WD40QC          |      (Pardon the inconvenience while we
Performance Engineering Magazine(TM) |      remodel this .signature)
Marietta, Ga                   |
jgd@dixie.com                  |
```

```
-----
Date: 17 Jul 1993 17:26:59 -0500
From: cs.utexas.edu!not-for-mail@uunet.uu.net
Subject: Call sign snobbery
To: ham-policy@ucsd.edu
```

```
> The first calls issued in the US were a number and 3 letters:
> 2IHO. When communication between countries became possible,
```

Actually, a number with 2 letters. The 6th district (which included other states then) ran out of 0x2 calls first ...

If the suffix started with an X it was an experimental station (aside: there are no KB5X** calls, but there are N5X**. Are there still "experimental" callsigns?). If it started with a Y, it was a technical and training school callsign. Z had significance too, but I don't recall what it was :-).

73,
Peter Laws
N5UWY/AA, V31WY, VE2???

President,
Amateur Radio Club,
University of Arkansas / W5YM (ex-5YM)

Peter Laws | "The '90s are gonna make the '60s|plaws@uafhp.uark.edu
n5uwy@ka5bml.ar.usa.noam| look like the '50s" --D. Hopper|plaws@uafsysb.bitnet

Date: 18 Jul 1993 06:48:25 GMT
From: cthomas@athena.mit.edu
Subject: Call sign snobbery
To: ham-policy@ucsd.edu

In article <Pine.3.07.9307171745.A23025-a1000000@uafhp.uark.edu>
plaws@uafhp.uark.edu (Peter Laws) writes:

>
>If the suffix started with an X it was an experimental station.

Experimental in what sense? Isn't that what ham is about?

--Michael T. Ford WZ0C
<cthomas@MIT.edu>
W1XM, the oldest school club in the country

Date: 18 Jul 93 07:52:48 GMT
From: ddsww1!indep1!clifto@uunet.uu.net
Subject: Call sign snobbery
To: ham-policy@ucsd.edu

In article <1993Jul16.205832.24476@mnemosyne.cs.du.edu> jmaynard@nyx.cs.du.edu
(Jay Maynard) writes:

>
>>Starting in the late 50s, when the original batch of 1 X 3 W/K
>>calls ran out, FCC began issuing 2 X 3 calls, starting with WA,
>>then going to WB. They skipped WC for amateur calls, then started
>>issuing WD calls.

I think it was more like the early 60's. I got my WN9PDM license in May
of 1965, becoming WA9PDM in 1966, and they were well into the WB9's by 1967.

>Actually, I understand a very few WC calls were issued to regular hams when
>they first started this, but all of those were quickly replaced with
>WDs...seems they had a computer problem. :-) There were some WC calls issued
>to RACES stations, and a very, very few of them were issued to RACES repeaters
>as WC#Rxx.

>
>The rumor I remember was that folks objected to having their call start with
>the abbreviation for "water closet"...

At the time incentive licensing came into being, there was a class of
license called Conditional; those living more than 150 miles from the

nearest FCC office could apply to have another General Class or higher ham administer the test (those within 150 miles had to go in to the FCC office). These boonie folk were granted a Conditional Class license, with all the privileges of a General Class license but with a WC call. FCC had planned (and I thought they actually managed) to skip from WB9ZZZ to WD9AAA because there were still some people with the Conditional calls.

--

```
+-----+
|  Cliff Sharp  |      clifto@indep1.chi.il.us   OR  clifto@indep1.uucp   |
|  WA9PDM      |                        Use whichever one works      |
+-----+
```

Date: 18 Jul 93 17:17:14 GMT

From: ogicse!emory!europa.eng.gtefsd.com!gatech!mailer.cc.fsu.edu!geomag!

zateslo@network.ucsd.edu

Subject: Call sign snobbery

To: ham-policy@ucsd.edu

In article <22arnp\$j95@senator-bedfellow.MIT.EDU> cthomas@athena.mit.edu (Michael T Ford) writes:

>In article <Pine.3.07.9307171745.A23025-a100000@uaafhp.uark.edu>

>plaws@uaafhp.uark.edu (Peter Laws) writes:

>>

>>If the suffix started with an X it was an experimental station.

>

>Experimental in what sense? Isn't that what ham is about?

>

The X series was issued to organizations (commercial and otherwise) which engaged in radio experimentation, generally on non-ham frequencies (although some were licensed to communicate with hams). The predecessor of my call, 1X0, was issued to General Radio back in the 20s (I have never been able to find out what they did with it). Other examples are the first TV stations in the 30s and early 40s, which held calls like W2XBS. At least until recently (maybe still), the FCC issued calls in the series KB2Xxx to experimental stations, regardless of their location in the US.

The Y series of calls was issued to "training" stations, many of which were issued to colleges and could communicate with hams, which accounts for all the university stations with Y calls (e.g., W6YX, W1YU).

Ted Zateslo, W1X0 (not as old as my call looks)

zateslo@geomag.gly.fsu.edu

Date: 18 Jul 1993 05:50:36 GMT
From: agate!howland.reston.ans.net!math.ohio-state.edu!news.acns.nwu.edu!
casbah.acns.nwu.edu!park@ames.arpa
Subject: Foreigner getting US liscence ?
To: ham-policy@ucsd.edu

I'm an international student holding F-1 visa.
Having operated as a memeber of club station HL0U,
I'm pretty familiar with HAM but since I came to US I ignored
about HAM because I thought US and Korea don't have reciprocal
operation agreement and since I'm not a US citizen, I presumed
I can't get a US liscnce. But very recently, I've heard otherwise.
I've heard many JAs go to Guam to get US liscnec since it's pretty
convenient at times. So I ask now, is it possible for a non-US
citizen, non-permanent resident to get a US liscence ?
If it's possible, I'll definitely pursue it ..

Thanks in advance
--

Yongsup Park(9Z ?k <7) \ park@anmsd3.msd.anl.gov / Intentionally
Physics & Astronomy Dept. \ park@casbah.acns.nwu.edu / left as a
Northwestern University \ B40180@ANLCV1.BITNET / blank space.

Date: Sun, 18 Jul 1993 16:00:57 GMT
From: pacbell.com!amdahl!netcomsv!netcom.com!jfh@ames.arpa
Subject: Foreigner getting US liscence ?
To: ham-policy@ucsd.edu

park@casbah.acns.nwu.edu (Yongsup Park) wrote:

>I'm an international student holding F-1 visa.
>Having operated as a memeber of club station HL0U,
>I'm pretty familiar with HAM but since I came to US I ignored
>about HAM because I thought US and Korea don't have reciprocal
>operation agreement and since I'm not a US citizen, I presumed
>I can't get a US liscnce. But very recently, I've heard otherwise.

Coorect.

>I've heard many JAs go to Guam to get US liscnec since it's pretty
>convenient at times. So I ask now, is it possible for a non-US
>citizen, non-permanent resident to get a US liscence ?

Yes, it is. You must have a US mailing address and be able to read and speak English well enough to pass the test and identify yourself on the air. Sounds like you meet both of those requirements.

You also cannot be a representative of a foreign government. I don't know why that requirement is there - a holdover from more jingoistic days?

About hams from other countries going to Guam - do they just get a post office box somewhere on American soil and have their mail forwarded?

--

Jack Hamilton jfh@netcom.com kd6ttl@n0ary.#nocal.ca.us.na (AMPR)
Post Office Box Box 281107 San Francisco, California 94128 USA

Date: 18 Jul 1993 02:39:42 -0400
From: digex.com!digex.net!not-for-mail@uunet.uu.net
Subject: Order pizza on your autopatch now
To: ham-policy@ucsd.edu

15 July 1993

Action in Docket Case PR Docket 92-136

"The Commission has amended the amateur service rules in order to allow amateur operators more flexibility to provide communications for public service projects as well as to enhance the value of the amateur service in satisfying personal communications needs."

Among the types of communications no longer restricted by FCC rules and regulations are: collecting data for the National Weather Service (aren't we doing this already?!), facilitating events such as races and parades (ditto), and making appointments and *ordering food*. This is not a drill, it actually says ordering food is no longer restricted.

So be the first on your repeater to order a pizza over the autopatch, preferably for the next ham club meeting! :)

Note: Followups directed to .policy .

p.s. Thankfully, the Commission denied the ARRL's request to provide a list of anecdotal expamples of prohibited

communications. Any time you ask a government for a shopping list you are putting yourself in jeopardy of restricting future interpretation of rules and laws. I am glad that the FCC didn't have the time or money to provide such a list.

--

bote@access.digex.net (John Boteler)
WARNING: You are subject to pre-emption!

Date: 14 Jul 93 17:30:25 GMT
From: ogicse!emory!gatech!nanovx!dragon!nj8j!ben@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: Presence of control operator
To: ham-policy@ucsd.edu

levin@bbn.com (Joel B Levin) writes:

> I think the only pitfall in this situation is that the non-licensed
> individual is considered a third party, and in a QSO with a DX station
> the third party rules apply.

But how often do you work DX on Field Day? It's pretty much a domestic contest.

Ben

+-----+
Ben Coleman NJ8J	"All that is not eternal is
AX.25: NJ8J@W4Q0.#EAL.#ATL.GA.USA.NA	eternally irrelevant."
Internet: ben@nj8j.atl.ga.us	C. S. Lewis
+-----+

Date: Thu, 15 Jul 93 17:25:13 GMT
From: psinntp!laidbak!tellab5!cuuxb!ncrlis1!ncrhub2!torynews!kevin@uunet.uu.net
To: ham-policy@ucsd.edu

References <21rshmINNh5d@topaz.bds.com>, <2hv.xr_p@dixie.com>,
<1993Jul14.231922.5752@n5ial.mythical.com>5

Subject : Re: recognizing machine vs hand cw (Was: Brilliant postings)

In article <1993Jul14.231922.5752@n5ial.mythical.com> jim@n5ial.mythical.com (Jim Graham) writes:

>

>Not always.... Back when I was in school (ca. 1988), was *REALLY* active
>in cw, and my code speed was around 28 wpm (even when talking with someone
>else in the room), I spent a *LOT* of time hanging about on 30m. At those
>speeds, it's just as fast to send whole words as it is to send lots of
>abbreviations. Granted, there are some that come more naturally due to past
>experience (e.g., QTH is ... UR RST nxx ... and a few other more common
>abbreviations), but for the most part, you'd see a lot of whole words.
>

Obviously this is false--abbreviations are always quicker to send than whole words, no matter what the speed. One just needs to take care and not use abbreviations unknown to the person listening. I can usually tell by the other person's sending style how experienced they are, and choose a subset of abbreviations accordingly. I've only been on the air for a bit over a year though, so I'm sure there's lots of abbreviations I don't know!

Another reason to use abbreviations is that the common ones can be recognized as *words* rather than sequences of letters. For example I never send "would", I send "wud" instead because it's more common and easily recognized.

>And that was using a keyer (at the time, I had a single-paddle electronic
>keyer---not really a bug, as such, just not an iambic keyer). And most of
>the time (unless I'd had a few too many beers <grin>), my code was pretty
>clean, and could probably have come from a machine (getting back to the
>issue at hand).
>

I find that CW is the one mode I can do reasonably well when I'm, shall we say, speech impaired ;-) They can't tell you're slurring your words, they just think you're not that good at sending (unless they've heard you before, in which case you just say you're using your "backup" keyer).

>I can't speak for 30m today, but around 1988 or so, hand-sent cw QSOs
>were also often long-winded...when cw becomes as conversational as it does
>at around 28 wpm, long-windedness often comes along as a side-effect. Of

My speed is around 23 wpm now, and I'm really starting to enjoy the conversational nature of the mode. I've just set up a mobile HF rig, and I am finding mobile CW to be an interesting new challenge!

--

[]	[]	[] []	[] []	Kevin Sanders, KN6FQ	NCR Torrey Pines
[]	[]	[]	[] []	kevin.sanders@torreypinesca.ncr.com	(619) 597-3602
[] []	[] []	[] []		kevin%beacons@cyber.net	
[]	[]	[]	[] []		
[]	[]	[]	[] []	Dump MS-DOS. Prevent Programmer Burnout with Linux.	

Date: Thu, 15 Jul 93 17:37:48 GMT
From: psinntp!laidbak!tellab5!cuuxb!ncrlisl!ncrhub2!torynews!kevin@uunet.uu.net
To: ham-policy@ucsd.edu

References <CA59vu.GJp@news.Hawaii.Edu>, <1993Jul14.130047.3228@ke4zv.uucp>,
<1993Jul14.190733.10398@Csl.i.Stanford.EDU>
Subject : Re: Brilliant postings

In article <1993Jul14.190733.10398@Csl.i.Stanford.EDU> paulf@Csl.i.Stanford.EDU
(Paul Flaherty) writes:

>
>I'm sorry Gary, but your statements about the light use of CW on HF simply
>are not bourne out in my experience. On 20, the number of CW QSOs is about
>the same as for SSB every time I've checked, and the number of CW QSOs on
>40 generally exceeds the SSB QSOs.
>

Paul, could this be because the CW ops are actually more active than their
SSB counterparts? I.e., they operate more often and for a longer period of
time. Another possibility would be that many SSB QSOs are between > 2
stations, whereas I have very seldom heard a round-table being conducted
using CW.

>I also don't agree with your speculations about CW usage dying off. The club
>in which I participate (Stanford ARC, W6YX) has 42 members, 35 of whom are
>General or above. Of those, 19 are primarily CW ops, with the rest putting
>in a few hours now and then during contests. And, oh yeah, the average
>member age is under 30. Go figure.
>

Unfortunately in my club we had a heck of a time getting enough ops for
CW on Field Day. We were running a 5A class station, with 2 CW transmitters.
The club has over 750 members, and we only had 5 ops at my station (including
loggers). And a friend of mine who operated at the other CW station told me
they couldn't find a logger who knew CW, they just had to tell him what to
log :-(

But I really don't care about statistics. The important thing is, the mode
is being kept alive and will continue to be, because there will always be
folks out there who appreciate what an art it is. Nothing has changed from
25 years ago, a percentage of new hams will learn CW and it will become
their favorite mode; and a percentage of new hams will not understand.

--
[] [] [][] [][] Kevin Sanders, KN6FQ NCR Torrey Pines
[] [] [] [] [] kevin.sanders@torreypinesca.ncr.com (619) 597-3602

[] [] [] [] kevin%beacons@cyber.net
[] [] [] [] []
[] [] [] [] [] [] Dump MS-DOS. Prevent Programmer Burnout with Linux.

Date: Sat, 17 Jul 93 22:31:41 -0800
From: rtech!amdahl!grafex!ka6etb@decwrl.dec.com
To: ham-policy@ucsd.edu

References <1993Jul16.134947.1@levy.fnal.gov>, <22613eINNatt@west.West.Sun.COM>,
<1993Jul17.205506.1@levy.fnal.gov>
Reply-To : steveh@grafex.Cupertino.CA.US
Subject : Re: Callsign reissue on FCC's steam driven computer

Our gummint has several CRAY supercomputers than run with various amounts
of idle time. Seems to me that our #1 techno-dweeb and VP should look into
sharing computer resources government wide, not just agency wide.

BTW...My employer knows nothing about this post.

Date: 18 Jul 93 02:55:06 GMT
From: ogicse!uwm.edu!linac!newsaintmail@network.ucsd.edu
To: ham-policy@ucsd.edu

References <22613eINNatt@west.West.Sun.COM>, <1993Jul16.134947.1@levy.fnal.gov>,
<willmore.742886953@tremple.gis.iastate.edu>
Subject : Re: Callsign reissue on FCC's steam driven computer

In article <willmore.742886953@tremple.gis.iastate.edu>, willmore@iastate.edu
(David Willmore) writes:

> levy@levy.fnal.gov (Mark E. Levy, ext. 8056) writes:

>>flloyd@l1-a.west.sun.com (Fred Lloyd [Phoenix SE]) writes:

>>[stuff deleted]

>>> I'm sure that many of us would gladly help pay for a new FCC computer
>>> to help defray these costs. \$20 per license application would easily
>>> foot the bill for a nice 486DX2 66mhz with a 500 MB drive and 8
>>> megabytes of RAM. A nice unix workstation could run circles around
>>> the Burroughs for about \$10,000.

>

>>You don't have enough facts to be making recommendations.

>

>>While your proposal may very well handle the database, you're completely
>>ignoring many other aspects of why a large system might be used.

>

> And you're ignoring that the proposal was also limiting what the system

> was to handle. The original system handles much more than the amateur
> call allocation. To replace that part of the original system, a much
> smaller/faster machine would work just fine.
>
>>If such a database were put on a PC, only *one* person at a time could maintain
>>it. Even if a network were used, the number of simultaneous accesses is fairly
>>small. That computer is probably used for many other things as well, and
>>probably has nationwide, if not worldwide access. You can't do that with a PC.
>
> What? One user PC? Have you never heard of Unix? Just because it runs on
> a pc, that doesn't make it a DOS application.

Yes, a *one* user PC. That's what the original poster suggested.

And I've heard of Unix. I just don't think much of it.

>
>>PCs are *NOT* the answer to everything. In fact, they're not the answer to most
>>things. There are things they're good at; I don't think the FCC callsign
>>database is one of them.
>
> You're right, there are some things that PC's aren't good at. Also, the
> converse is true. There are some things that PC's are better at. The original
> poster also said that a good workstation could be used. I'd put an Alpha AXP
> 3000/300 up against that burroughs for this job any day.

I'm very encouraged by the Alpha. But, I wouldn't say that the workstation
versions released so far could hold a candle to the Burroughs data-moving
capability. CPU-wise they probably blow the Burroughs away. Megabytes-per-
second; I don't think so. Now, the data-center Alphas are a different story.
I doubt that the callsign database is very CPU-intensive.

> -----
> willmore@iastate.edu | "Death before dishonor" | "Better dead than greek" |
> David Willmore | "Ever noticed how much they look like orchids? Lovely!" |
> -----

```
=====
[ Mark E. Levy, N9RXF                |                               ]
[ BitNet:  LEVY@FNAL                 | Unix is to computing           ]
[ Internet: LEVY@FNAL.GOV            | as an Etch-a-Sketch is to art. ]
[ HEPnet/SPAN: FNALD::LEVY (VMS!)   |                               ]
=====
```

Date: 18 Jul 93 02:44:06 GMT
From: ogicse!uwm.edu!linac!newsaintmail@network.ucsd.edu

To: ham-policy@ucsd.edu

References <226l3eINNatt@west.West.Sun.COM>,
<1993Jul16.180050.309@rsg1.er.usgs.gov>, <226ropINNhib@west.West.Sun.COM>
Subject : Re: Callsign reissue on FCC's steam driven computer

In article <226ropINNhib@west.West.Sun.COM>, flloyd@l1-a.west.sun.com (Fred Lloyd [Phoenix SE]) writes:

> In article <1993Jul16.180050.309@rsg1.er.usgs.gov>

> bodoh@dgg.cr.usgs.gov (Tom Bodoh) writes:

>>--

>>I am by no means a Burroughs fan, but don't assume that a 486 could replace a
>>mainframe. Yes, the 486 will beat SOME mainframes in compute power - but
>>the strongpoint of most mainframes is their high data throughput and ability
>>to serve hundreds or thousands of users. Certainly many UNIX servers will
>>kick the crap out of most mainframes, but a 486 won't.

>

> Agreed. But a 486 could easily take on the single task of managing the
> amateur radio callsign database. It's called downsizing, distributed
> computing,... oh well, forget it. We're talking about the government
> here :-)

Only if one (1) person is going to do the maintenance at a time. Do we know how many amateur radio callsign database updates the FCC does in a day? A week? Can one person handle it (or three, they'd probably have to run 'round the clock to keep up)? What about inquiries? Does the maintenance stop when someone else needs to look up a license? We're not talking about a network here, where multi-user access is possible. The original poster proposed a *single* PC.

And many Unix systems will *compute* the crap out of a mainframe, but it won't move data better. Mainframes are designed to move data, that's what most business applications do most of, with only occasional heavy compute cycles.

```
=====
[ Mark E. Levy, N9RXF                |                               ]
[ BitNet:  LEVY@FNAL                | Unix is to computing          ]
[ Internet: LEVY@FNAL.GOV            | as an Etch-a-Sketch is to art. ]
[ HEPnet/SPAN: FNALD::LEVY (VMS!)   |                               ]
=====
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End of Ham-Policy Digest V93 #237
